

Appl. No. 10/600,194
Amndt. Dated: July 20, 2005
Reply to Office Action of April 20, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in the present application. Claim 18 has been amended and Claim 26 has been newly added, leaving claims 1-26 for consideration upon entry of the present amendment. No new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

Amended Claims

Claim 18 has been amended to better define the invention. Support for the amendment can be found at least in Claim 1 as originally filed.

New Claims

Claim 26 has been newly added. Support for Claim 26 can be found at least in the Abstract of the specification.

Claim Rejections -35 USC § 102

Claims 18 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,217,190 to Altman et al. (Altman). (Office Action dated 04/20/2005, page 2) Applicant respectfully traverses.

The Examiner alleges that Altman discloses a lamp to generate light (30), and electrically conductive fixing member (15) having a base substrate (27) so as to fix a fixing clip (17) protruded from an upper surface (20) of the base substrate so as to fix the lamp and a fixing protrusion (28) integrally formed with the base substrate so as to prevent the lamp from moving a longitudinal direction of the lamp and a receiving receptacle (15, inner portion) having a receiving space in which the fixing member and the lamp are coupled to the fixing member. The fixing protrusion is positioned between an end portion of the lamp and the sidewall of the receiving receptacle so as to prevent the lamp from moving towards the sidewall of the receiving receptacle (figs 1 and 2). (Office Action dated 04/20/2005, pages 2 and 3)

Claim 18 as presently amended is directed to a backlight assembly comprising a

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lamp to generate light; an electrically conductive fixing member having a base substrate, a resilient fixing clip protruded from an upper surface of the base substrate so as to fix the lamp, and a fixing protrusion integrally formed with the base substrate so as to prevent the lamp from moving in a longitudinal direction of the lamp; and a receiving receptacle having a receiving space in which the fixing member and the lamp coupled to the fixing member are received.

Altman teaches a fluorescent lighting assembly that includes a ballast lampholder subassembly located at one end of a troffer and at least one lampholder connector located at the opposite end. (see Abstract) The Examiner has stated that "the fixing protrusion (28) is integrally formed with the base substrate so as to prevent the lamp from moving a longitudinal direction of the lamp." (Office Action dated 04/20/2005, page 2) It is respectfully submitted that Figure 2 of Altman teaches that the output inductors 28 are disposed on the printed circuit board 27. (see Figure 2; see also Col. 4, lines 11 - 16) The output inductors 28 of Altman are not integrally formed with the base substrate as contended by the Examiner.

In particular as may be seen in Figure 2 of Altman, the output inductors 28 in the cited references are disposed between the lamp holders 15 and are not coupled to the lamps. Therefore, the output inductors 28 do not prevent the lamp from moving in the longitudinal direction of the lamp as presently claimed. For this reason at least, Altman cannot anticipate the present invention. Applicants therefore respectfully request a withdrawal of the §102 (b) rejection over Altman and an allowance of the claims.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicant's attorney hereby authorizes that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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